

**NORTH CAROLINA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION Meeting Minutes**  
**August 29, 2019, 10:00am-1:00pm**  
**NC Judicial Center**  
**901 Corporate Center Drive, Raleigh NC, 27607**

**Commission Members Present:**

Libby Coles, JusticeMatters, Inc.  
Jennifer Haigwood, NC Department of Labor  
Jasmine McGhee, NC Department of Justice  
Pamela Cashwell, NC Department of Public Safety  
Will Johnson, Legal Aid of North Carolina (attending in place of Commissioner Caitlyn Ryland)  
Judge Sherri W. Elliott, NC Association of District Court Judges  
Thomas Bernard, Physician WakeMed North  
Dianne Layden, Public at Large (by phone)  
Charlene Reiss, NC Coalition Against Human Trafficking (attending in place of Commissioner Angelica Wind)  
William "Billy" West, Cumberland County District Attorney (by phone)  
Suzanne Mauney Smith, Gaston County Police (by phone)

**Commission Members Not Present:**

Judge Claire V. Hill, North Carolina Conference of Superior Court Judges  
William M. Nichols, Ret. Major NC Highway Patrol  
Ryan S. Boyce, NC Administrative Office of the Courts  
Monika Johnson-Hostler, NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Caitlyn Ryland, Legal Aid of North Carolina  
Angelica Wind, NC Coalition Against Human Trafficking (by phone)

**Commission Staff Present:**

Christine S. Long, Executive Director

**Members of the Public Present:**

Please see public sign-in sheet.

**Call to Order:**

The Chair called the meeting to order and read the following State Government Ethics Act reminder:

- In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission (HTC) member to avoid conflicts of interest. If any HTC member has any known conflict of interest in respect to any matter coming in front of the HTC they must identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

### **Welcome and Introductions:**

Chair Coles asked members of the Commission present via call to introduce themselves.

### **Approval of the Minutes: June 27, 2019 meeting:**

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2019 meeting was made, seconded, and passed with no amendments.

### **NC HTC Chair Report and Action Items:**

Chair Coles reported that Ryan Boyce will be leaving the Commission and that, per the NC Administrative Office of the Courts, will be replaced by Mildred Spearman (legislative liaison with NC AOC). Ms. Spearman will likely be sworn in at the Commission's October meeting.

There has been no further movement on the budget, which includes recurring funding for the HTC, in the General Assembly since veto. Director Long will share more information on various funding streams during the director report (below).

### **Ceremonial Resolution honoring Judge Thomas Jarrell:**

The late Judge Jarrell's wife, Cynthia Robeson Jarrell; his sister, Jenny Jarrell Hayman; and Interim Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts, McKinley Wooten, join the Commission for the presentation of a ceremonial resolution in honor of Judge Thomas Jarrell. Chair Coles presented the resolution, which was thereafter ratified.

### **Summary of Human Trafficking Presentations:**

Commissioner Billy West, by phone, gave a summary of a recent human trafficking presentation in Washington D.C. Commission member West served on the Executive Committee of National District Attorneys Board, which included 6 Attorneys General from various states who met together with Attorney General Barr to discuss human trafficking and elder abuse issues.

### **Committee Reports and Action Items:**

**Legislative Working Group:** Committee Chair Jennifer Haigwood reported that legislature was still in session and Senate Bill 198 has passed. Committee Chair Haigwood also discussed two bills (HB 37 and SB 199) which require school personnel to have a certain amount of training on human trafficking.

**Public Safety Committee:** No report.

**Public Health Committee:** Committee Chair Thomas Bernard shared that Atrium Health has agreed to join the committee. The committee would like Atrium Health to present at their next meeting regarding their current project to serve victims and their current training protocol.

**Ad Hoc Committee on Standards:** Chair Coles reported that the HTC standards are still under final edit and branding, and will be out once finalized.

**Ad Hoc Appropriations Committee:** Committee Chair Jennifer Haigwood reminded Commissioners that the Commission approved a grant extension for a grantee in the June meeting. The Commission discussed how grant extension requests are handled and what is allowable under state budget rules. Another request for a grant extension has been made by DPS's NC Re-Entry Council for an extension through June 30, 2020, which is in line with the extension granted to Cumberland County. Commission member McGhee moved to authorize Director Long to grant extensions through June 30, 2020 and to bring challenging extension issues before the Commission, when needed. Commissioner Cashwell recused herself from the voting; the motion was seconded and carried.

**Presentation: Stronger Legal tools for Addressing the Collateral Consequences of a Criminal Record**

Tolu Adewale of Legal Aid of NC presented on changes to NC laws through House Bill 198, which implements the legislative recommendations made by the HTC, and what they mean for survivors. His presentation included descriptions of the types of criminal record relief available in NC (expunction, certificate of relief (COR), motion for appropriate relief (MAR), and driver license restoration) and changes to the operation of these forms of relief under new NC law amendments.

Chair Coles thanked Mr. Adewale for his invaluable assistance in helping the HTC understand the impact of NC law on Legal Aid of NC's client/survivors of human trafficking as the HTC prepared legislative recommendations for the NC General Assembly.

**Staff Report:**

Director Long gave the staff report. The report consisted of conversations with NC DPI regarding the school education requirements for human trafficking, awareness sign final steps, budget updates, grant updates and current projects staff are working on.

**Adjournment**

At 11:45am the meeting was adjourned by Chair Coles. The next meeting will be held on October 24, 2019 from 10am to 1pm at the NC Judicial Center on Corporate Center Drive in Raleigh.